

WAIKATO STUD

NEWSLETTER



INNES COMPLETES FATHER AND SON GUINEAS DOUBLE

Written by Paul Vettise



Jockey Leith Innes partnered Sacred Falls (NZ) to a stunning victory in the 2012 G1 New Zealand 2000 Guineas and he combined with the late stallion's son Aegon (NZ) to land the 2020 edition at Riccarton on November 7.

Innes rode Sacred Falls in all six of his New Zealand wins for trainer Tony Pike before the colt relocated to Chris Waller's yard and three Group 1 successes later he returned home to stand at Waikato Stud.

Tragically, the stallion passed away last December due to a liver disorder and his loss was emphasised by the performance of his unbeaten son and first Group 1 winner Aegon.

"Eight years ago I won on Sacred Falls and they are very similar horses in nature and not very big, but put in 100 per cent every time," Innes said.

Trained by Murray Baker and part-owner Andrew Forsman, Aegon was a dashing maiden winner at Taupo in August before he was put aside and returned to claim the G3 Hawke's Bay Guineas with a storming late run.

The gelding also settled well back in the running before unwinding powerfully to land the Al Basti Equiworld Dubai-sponsored feature and a performance made all the more

meritorious as he had to come off a sedate pace to triumph.

"I had no negatives about the horse and I was confident of winning with him," Innes said. "We got into a bit of a tricky spot, but I just had so much faith in him."

In a tight finish, Aegon got home by 0.1l from Bourbonaire (NZ) (Darci Brahma {NZ}) and Marine (NZ) (Ocean Park {NZ}) finished third.

"Full credit to the horse and to Murray Baker and Andrew Forsman, I'm just glad we got the job done," Innes said.

Aegon was bred and sold by Waikato Stud, as was Marine, and was knocked down at New Zealand Bloodstock's National Yearling Sale to Forsman for NZ\$150,000.

Jon Snow (NZ), who now stands at Clearview Park Stud.

"They are a great family and it's been a great ride," Forsman said. "I was worried when they went so slowly and he was in a tricky spot, but I knew how much confidence Leith had. This is a pretty special win."

“He had a really good preparation and we spaced his races out as he’s not an overly robust horse. He’s a good galloper and it was just a matter of whether he could take his brilliance to a mile”

"He had a really good preparation and we spaced his races out as he's not an overly robust horse. He's a good galloper and it was just a matter of whether he could take his brilliance to a mile."

Bourbonaire was another to do particularly well to get as close as he did after also getting back in the running while Marine's chances weren't helped by a check in the running, which nearly unseated rider Michael McNab.

Lord Ardmore (NZ) (Reliable Man {GB}) defied his long odds, he started at 50-1, to finish fourth ahead of Rocket Spade (Fastnet Rock).

The well-supported Need I Say More (No Nay Never {USA}) was in or near the lead throughout and after kicking clear he faded out to finish sixth with rider Opie Bosson saying the chestnut didn't stay the 1600 metres.



He is out of Toss Up (NZ) (Zabeel {NZ}), who has a 100 per cent record at stud with all four of her foals to race successful. She is from the family of the G1 Ellerslie Sires' Produce S. winner Good Faith (NZ) (Straight Strike {USA}).

Forsman owns Aegon with the Zame family, a partnership that also raced the G1 Australian Derby winner and multiple Group 1 placegetter

CHAMPION QUALITIES SHINE THROUGH AT RTR SALE

Waikato Stud's multiple champion sire Savabeel was again the dominant stallion force at New Zealand Bloodstock's Ready to Run Sale at Karaka

He was the leading sire at the two-day auction with five lots sold for \$1,352,500 at an average of \$270,400 and also provided the top lot of the auction with a son selling for \$700,000.

It was the highest price ever paid at a Ready to Run Sale and was secured out of Jamie Beatson's Riversley Park draft by Te Akau with Head Trainer Jamie Richards doing the bidding on behalf of David Ellis.

"We think he is the best type of Savabeel, he's not too heavy and is beautifully balanced with a lovely attitude and a very correct colt," Ellis said.

Bred by the Smithies family's Monovale Holdings, the

Savabeel youngster is the first foal of the unraced O'Reilly) mare Miss Opulence.

She is a half-sister to the six-time Group 1 winner Sir Slick



and to the dual top-flight winner and sire Puccini.

Cranbourne trainer Trent Busuttin is a huge Savabeel fan and he went to \$400,000 on the first day to land a colt from Ohukia Lodge's consignment.

"I thought he would go for around \$400,000 and that was my last bid. Coming so early in the Sale usually helps for a bit of a discount and I don't know whether that was the case and





Savabeel x Miss Opulence colt

behalf of a Hong Kong client, for \$525,000.

Leahy bought the colt for \$80,000 out of Cambridge Stud's yearling draft and broke him in before he was offered at the Sale by Riversley.

"It's unbelievable and I never thought he would get that," Leahy said. "I knew he was popular and the bidding was creeping up and I thought where is this going?"

"I had hoped he might get \$300,000 as he was in and out of his box an awful lot. It was



Savabeel x Miss Opulence colt

I'm just happy to get him," Busuttin said.

Ohukia's Jamie Beatson purchased the youngster out of breeder Waikato Stud's draft at the New Zealand Bloodstock Yearling Sale earlier this year for \$220,000.

He is a son of the unraced Pins mare On Broadway, who is a sister to the seven-time winner and G3 McNeil S. runner-up Pins On Parade) and the stakes performer Dower. She is the dam of the three-time

Listed winner and G1 VRC Oaks runner-up Dowager Queen.

"It's tough times, but quality always sells. We obviously paid a bit for him as a yearling and he's developed into a really good colt," Beatson said.

Meanwhile, Cambridge horseman Finbarr Leahy enjoyed a windfall result on Wednesday when his son of the late Sacred Falls was knocked down to trainer Graham Richardson, acting on



Savabeel x On Broadway colt

just fantastic and it's going to take a while to sink in, it's life-changing."

A half-brother to the Listed Castletown S. winner Stella Di Paco, the son of Sacred Falls is out of Savabeel Star and she is also the dam of Hong Kong winners Viva Chef and Shining On.

Q&A

WITH MIKE RENNIE

What does a typical day at work look like for you?

This time of year I get to the office a tick before 6am and fire it up ready for the day ahead, before heading down to the service barn. After services, head around to check the foals with the guys before having a catch up on the day ahead. Play it as it lies from there.

What's something you find challenging about your role?

There are multiple things on the go all the time. Keeping track so things run smoothly and as they should is always a challenge.

What is most rewarding about your role?

- Seeing the staff enjoy a get together after a long week
- Getting results on the racetrack and in the sales ring

Favourite memory working for Waikato Stud

My first week here 15 odd years ago, having a drink with Mark and Jezza on the bean bags at Game Gully (Jezza will understand).

Favourite resident stallion and why?

Super Seth is right there but you can't go past Savabeel. He's a champ and the ultimate professional.

Who is your biggest inspiration?

Bruce Slade. We've known each other for 20 years and he's always rising to a new challenge or goal.

Favourite holiday destination and why?

Don't have a specific one, just so long as there is a beach, beer and fishing.

What's one thing you couldn't live without?

A descent BBQ.

“Super Seth is right there but you can't go past Savabeel. He's a champ and the ultimate professional”



Mike Rennie
BUSINESS MANAGER

CIRCLE

THE WINNERS

WIND BLOWING TOWARD BLACK TYPE SUCCESS

The daughter of Pins is out of the Danasinga mare Zephyr Song, who was unraced but has done an admirable job in the broodmare role.

Stakes success for West Wind looks like a formality after the Pins mare added to an already impressive record at The Valley on October 23.

The patiently-handled 5-year-old won for the sixth time in her 11-start career when she lumped 60kg to victory over 2040 metres, in the process giving the runner-up and last season's G1 Schweppes Oaks placegetter Affair To Remember 1.5kg.

Bred by Waikato Stud who remains in the ownership, West Wind is trained by Ciaran Maher and David Eustace and was ridden by regular partner John Allen.



FABULOUS FAMILY DOUBLE

Savabeel mare Fabulist was represented by a notable double October 24 when her daughter Icebath was successful at Randwick and her brother Courier Wonder made a statement with a dashing debut victory at Sha Tin.

Trained by Brad Widdup, the Sacred Falls mare Icebath triumphed over 1600 metres to post her third career win and last season also gained black type credits with placings in the G3 Hawkesbury Guineas and the Listed South Pacific Classic.

She was a AU\$100,000 Inglis Classic Yearling Sale graduate while Courier Wonder was bought out of Waikato Stud's New Zealand Bloodstock

National Yearling Sale draft for \$150,000 by bloodstock agent John Foote.

The 3-year-old is trained by John Size and was ridden to an emphatic victory at the first time of asking over 1200 metres by Joao Moreira.

His dam Fabulist was a five-time winner and all five of her foals to race have been successful and also includes the Singapore black type winner Nowyousee.



has
really
blossomed.

Wairere Falls came from last to win at Hawkesbury before producing an identical performance today with jockey Tommy Berry giving the gelding plenty of time to find his feet before powering to an emphatic victory.

"He's a lovely horse and got a beautiful style about him. Since we've ridden him quietly he's showed a good turn of foot and it was pretty soft in the end," Berry said. He's definitely up to Saturday company and more comfortable on top of the ground."

Wairere Falls was bought out of Waikato Stud's draft at New Zealand Bloodstock's National Yearling Sale by Go Racing for \$280,000.

SAVABEEL 4YO LOVING NEW ENVIRONMENT

Waikato Stud graduate Wairere Falls is loving life in Sydney and added to his record in fine style on the Kensington track at Randwick on October 28.

The well-related Savabeel 4-year-old picked up a maiden success and three placings during his time at the Victorian arm of Chris Waller's operation and since his move to Rosehill





Maui

STUD GRADUATES A PAIR TO FOLLOW

A pair of Waikato Stud progressive graduates combined on October 22 to credit the Matamata farm with an inter-state double.

Jenni Bad Cat and Wairere Falls, both by resident champion sire Savabeel were successful at Ballarat and Hawkesbury to continue their marches through the grades.

Prepared by David Brideoake for the Ottobre family, Jenni Bad Cat has showed the benefit of patient handling and is now the winner of two of her three starts.

She was sold by Waikato Stud at New Zealand Bloodstock's National Yearling Sale for \$260,000 and is a daughter of the winning O'Reilly mare Kansas, a daughter of the G3 Frances Tressady S. winner Breezy.

Wairere Falls was a \$280,000 Karaka purchase for syndication company Go Racing and has now won twice following his Hawkesbury success for trainer Chris Waller in a brief career.

OCEAN PARK COLT ROMPS HOME

A well-performed Waikato Stud family was to the fore at Pakenham on November 5 when Maui produced a commanding performance to break his maiden.

The 3-year-old Ocean Park colt showed his appreciation of a step up to 1600 metres when bolting home by 4.5l at just his fourth race day appearance and the manner of his victory suggested he will be making his mark in stronger company.

Trained by Phillip Stokes, Maui is a son of the unraced O'Reilly mare Splendid who has a 100 per cent record at stud with all four of her foals to race successful.

He was bought out of Waikato Stud's New Zealand Bloodstock National Yearling Sale draft for NZ\$100,000 by Stokes, Peter Moody and Dalziel Racing.



Jenni Bad Cat

SAVABEEL 3YO RESUMES IN STYLE

The well-related Black Bolt showed he was in for a lucrative campaign when he coasted to a first-up success at Gosford on November 10.

The Waikato Stud-bred and sold son of Savabeel showed promise last term when runner-up on debut and was then turned out following an unplaced effort by trainers Ciaron Maher and David Eustace.

The 3-year-old had two trials to fit him for his return and kept the leaders within his sights and when rider Regan Bayliss asked him for a serious

effort
he let
d o w n
strongly to
win in style.

"There's improvement left up his sleeves and the 1200 metres was short of his best," stable representatives Jack Bruce said.

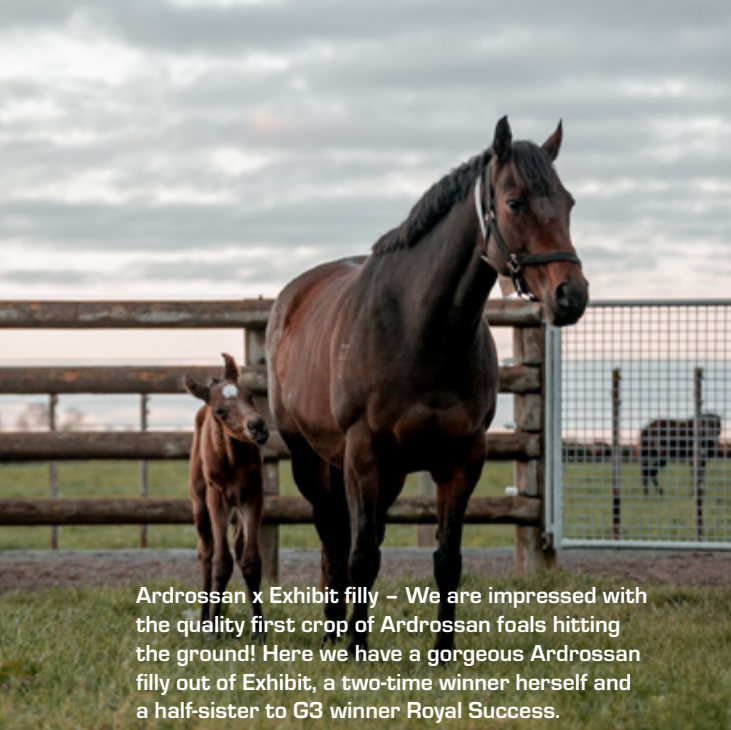
Black Bolt was purchased by Darby Racing in association with de Burgh Equine for \$150,000 at New Zealand

Black Bolt



Bloodstock's
National Yearling Sale.

He is a son of the winning O'Reilly mare Simply You and her dam is the two-time Group 1 winner Glamour Puss.



Ardrossan x Exhibit filly – We are impressed with the quality first crop of Ardrossan foals hitting the ground! Here we have a gorgeous Ardrossan filly out of Exhibit, a two-time winner herself and a half-sister to G3 winner Royal Success.



Harry Angel x Popular – This filly certainly isn't shy of the camera! By Harry Angel out of the two-time winner Popular, she was bred by John and Isabelle O'Shea.

FOAL FEATURE!

Image courtesy of Nicole Troost Photography



Savabeel x Style By Design – A gorgeous Savabeel filly out of the stakes-placed mare Style by Design.

FOAL FEATURE!

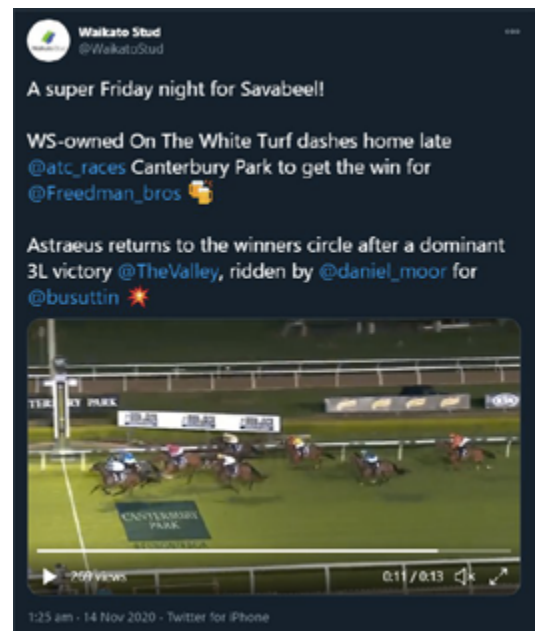


Time Test x Ritzy Sparkle colt
– This colt is by Time Test and is the first produce out of Ritzy Sparkle, who is by the late Pins and is a two-time winner.

Tivaci x Charli Rose filly – A sweet filly from the first crop by Tivaci out of two-time winner Charli Rose, who hails from a family with an impressive pedigree.



SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS



BEHIND THE SCENES AT WAIKATO

Our great friends at Play Creative were recently at Waikato Stud filming a TV commercial, here's some pics from the behind the scenes action!



GARRY'S CORNER



Garry Chittick

Our New Zealand Cup has long been a field of moderate handicappers. The Brisbane and Perth Cups are now run over one mile and a half

Well, the VRC Spring Carnival has come to an end. We are indeed fortunate the administrators have managed to overcome what appeared to be insurmountable challenges and provided us great racing. We are grateful.

The Cup, as always now attracts more attention with all the local pundits focussed on

where our breeding industry has lost its way. As usual the plethora of experts have little skin in the game.

Have they lined up, supporting the stud that is brave enough to stand the two-miler?

They don't have to own a share in the horse, just send a mare. It will not be expensive. But no, I don't blame you for buying a share in an already qualified horse that is ready to go.

So, we have a cup that regardless of where they come, from provides an opportunity for a suitably handicapped stayer to race for serious money.

New Zealand, the chorus sings, no longer breeds the horses we were renowned for.

A leading NZ administrator claimed we lost our focus by standing sprinters. Well, over the past twenty years stallions, who one would have believed could leave a cup runner, would outnumber speed stallions by ten to one.

I am not going to identify these horses. Anyone not suffering from dementia will have little trouble recalling their matings, resulting in enhancing the jumping code.

Let's get real. There are currently four two-mile races in Australasia that justify support. The Melbourne Cup, Sydney Cup, Adelaide Cup and possibly the Auckland Cup.

Our New Zealand Cup has long been a field of moderate handicappers. The Brisbane

and Perth Cups are now run over one mile and a half.

Now don't get me wrong, I love the drama of a race over distance, nor do I have the answer to the perceived change in breeding.

Our Waikato Stud stallions who, in recent years have had runners of four years old or more, have all had Cup starters. One would conclude therefore we are not excluded from these events, but racing has a far larger spread of competition than just two-mile handicaps.

Breeding racehorses is subject to constant and immense scrutiny, that's part of its appeal. It is an unusual mix of business and sport. The age spread of involvement is wonderful, I know having passed through numerous decades and still being competitive.

That in itself is part of the attraction.

How am I, or any owners competitive? We don't ride, train and in many cases, rear our horses. But our involvement allows us to believe we know which to purchase, which sire to use and most importantly, how little our fellow participants know.

As a stud who has invested more in stallion prospects in NZ than most, you will not be surprised at the advice we have received, from those who have never put their toe in the water.

We long ago realised holding a committee meeting as to which sire prospect should be

pursued would result in at least 49% of dissenters. Better to go it alone and be accountable to the bank manager.

So back to the beginning. I am pleased you have an opinion. It means you are involved.

If you think standing a Melbourne Cup winner is the way of the future, have a go. You won't lose a lot of money as they are hard to place.

US dollars roughly \$14 million NZ, mind you, not to be mated with a two-miler, you realise we need to hang in.

I read where the \$60k purchase Melody Belle will be auctioned next Autumn, that will be interesting.

As I write this, Mary and I were planning to head south to watch Cornflower Blue run in the 1000 Guineas.



This is an annual event, that is the scrutiny I mean, now we move on.

The world is no longer normal. This year's sale series is occupying all breeders' thoughts.

Recent Northern Hemisphere sales have seen the so-called elite, sell extremely well. This confirms in difficult times those with money seem to get more, money that is.

But when broodmares are changing hands for \$9.9 million

Regardless of where she finishes, I can tell you it is a race we love to be part of.

Why wouldn't we? We have bred four of the recent 2000 Guineas winners along with two of the fillies' events.

They may not be Cup winners, but we will take them with pride.

Cheers,
Garry Chittick